



# NEWS RELEASE

**NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE**  
United States Department of Agriculture • Northeastern Regional Field Office  
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## **USDA to Measure Quarterly Colony Loss and Cost of Pollination**

**Harrisburg, PA** – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will be collecting information about colony loss in the honey industry and pollination costs throughout the United States. The Quarterly Colony Loss survey will be conducted September 2018 through October 2018. This survey collects information about colony inventory and loss from more than 400 producers with honey bee colonies in the Northeastern Region of the United States. The Cost of Pollination survey will be conducted October 2018 through December 2018. This survey collects information about pollinated commodity acres, pollination colony numbers and pollination cost from approximately 3000 growers in the Northeastern Region of the United States.

“The information from these surveys directly impacts our region’s beekeepers and honey producers,” said King Whetstone, Director of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, Northeastern Regional Field Office. “Beekeepers and producers can use the survey results when making business plans and marketing decisions. Cooperative Extension uses the data to provide needed outreach and education and State Departments and Agencies of Agriculture use the information to set insurance values.”

For their convenience, survey participants have the option to respond online. As with all NASS surveys, information provided by respondents is confidential by law. NASS safeguards the confidentiality of all responses and publishes only State and National level data, ensuring that no individual producer or operation can be identified.

The annual *Honey Bee Colonies* publication is available online every August. The annual *Cost of Pollination* publication is available online every December. Previous publications are also available for review. These reports can be found online at <http://www.nass.usda.gov>. For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Northeastern Regional Field Office at 1-800-498-1518.

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*NASS is the federal statistical agency responsible for producing official data about U.S. agriculture and is committed to providing timely, accurate and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture.*

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